

Glenda Wiles

From: Ron Johnson [doctorj@tkinet.com]
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2009 6:00 PM
To: Glenda Wiles

Commissioners of Ravalli County

February 2, 2009

Subject: Airport expansion

Dear Sirs and Madams:

We own a home on Hanover Drive in Hamilton which you are aware is directly in line with the current runway. A year ago we had a near miss when a prop plane crash landed in the field a short distance from our home. It was by the grace of God no one on the ground nor the pilot was killed but it did point out the vulnerability of homes in our area. Had the crash involved a jet who knows what the outcome would have been but needless to say it would have been significant.

We moved to Hamilton, having lived in Great Falls, to in part distance ourselves from the commercial and military air traffic noise. We knew when we moved to Hamilton that there would be small private jets landing near by but that has not been a major problem. With the possibility of an airport expansion the total picture changes affecting safety, pollution (both noise and air) and the small community atmosphere of Hamilton.

If any changes are forthcoming then I would urge you to consider the aforementioned concerns. Twenty million dollars is an outrageous expense for lengthening the runway to benefit a few wealthy enough to have a large jet. The only option that makes sense for the community is the 40 foot addition to the east side of the current runway and removal of 40 feet from the west side which would meet FAA standards.

A concerned property owner and tax payer,

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2/3/2009